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Scooter with electric drive motor - has bar foldable to position in parallel with platform for standing passenger to facilitate carrying

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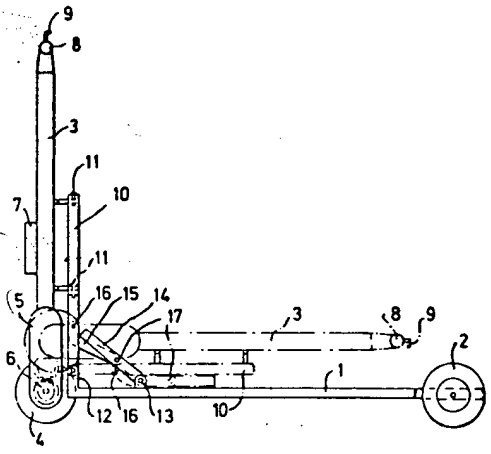
(19.07.78) B62d-51/02

A scooter includes a platform (1) for carrying a standing passenger and a member (3) on which handlebars (8) are mounted and which is pivotal relative to the platform so as to have a working position, wherein the member is vertical to the platform, and a position in which it is parallel to the platform to facilitate carrying of the scooter by a user.



An electric motor (5) is coupled to a wheel (4) of the scooter to provide a powered drive. Preferably a multiple position (9) switch is provieed for applying different numbers of cells of a dry cell battery (7) to the motor to vary its speed. 6.5.76 as 018646 (3pp1057).

PATENT SPECIFICATION (11) 1 518 432

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(54) A SCOOTER

(71) I, RAJAKUMAR CLEMENTS SELWYN, a British subject of 24 Endersleigh Gardens, Hendon N.W.4, do hereby declare the invention for which I pray that a patent may be granted to me, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

This invention relates to a scooter.

According to the present invention there is provided a scooter including a platform for carrying a standing passenger, a member on which handle-bars are mounted and which is pivotal relative to the platform so as to have a working position wherein the member is upright and substantially perpendicular to the platform and a position in which the member is substantially parallel to the platform to facilitate carrying of the scooter by a user, and an electric motor coupled to a wheel of the scooter for providing powered drive.

The invention will now be described in more detail by way of example only with reference to the accompanying drawings in which:—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a scooter;

Figure 2 is a plan view of the scooter shown in Fig. 1.

In the drawings, the scooter comprises a flat platform 1 for carrying a standing passenger and which mounts two rear freely rotatable wheels 2. Member 3 mounts a front wheel 4 in a fork (not shown) forming part of the member 3. An electric motor 5 is mounted on the fork of the member 3 and coupled to the front wheel 4 through a gear train 6 to provide a power drive. The electric motor is connected to a battery 7 mounted on the member 3.

The upright 3 carries handle-bars 8 for steering the scooter on which is mounted a three way switch 9 for controlling the motor. The switch 9 is arranged to connect different numbers of cells to the electric motor 5 so as to vary the speed of the electric motor by changing the voltage applied to it. Long life dry cells may be used to provide the battery 7 and a speed of between 4 and 7 miles an hour may be attained.

To provide the necessary steerage, the member 3 is pivotally mounted on an inverted U-shaped frame 10 by means of pivotal mountings 11. Each limb of the U-shaped frame 10 is pivotally mounted to a respective lug 12 fixed on the platform 1. In this way the whole of the member 3 and the frame 10 may be pivoted about the pivot points of the lugs 12 so that the member 3 and frame 10 lie in the position shown in dotted outline which facilitates carrying of the scooter by a user.

In order to retain the member 3 in the working position shown in full lines, a locking mechanism is provided which comprises a second inverted U-shaped member 14 having its limbs pivotally mounted at their free ends to lugs 13 on the platform 1. A pair of bent arms is pivotally connected at each end to intermediate points 16 and 17 of the respective U-shaped frames 10 and 14.

When the locking mechanism is in the position shown with the member 14 pushed firmly home against the bent arms 15 the member 3 is firmly held in the working position and cannot be tilted. To collapse the scooter, the member 14 is pulled away from the frame 10 and as soon as the member 14 passes the over centre position, the member 3 may be collapsed to lie parallel to the platform 1 in the carrying position as shown.

The scooter may have other features such as a hook on the member 3 for carrying a shopping basket or the like. The described scooter is extremely versatile in that it may be of lightweight construction and provided with a carrying handle such that in the collapsed position it can be easily carried by a user. Such a user could for example be a housewife going to do the shopping on a bus or a commuter on a train. When the user reaches the end of his destination on the public transport system, he can simply unfold the scooter into the working position and stand on the platform to ride off at between 4 and 7 miles an hour to his final

1518432 COMPLETE SPECIFICATION
1 SHEET *This drawing is a reproduction of the Original on a reduced scale*

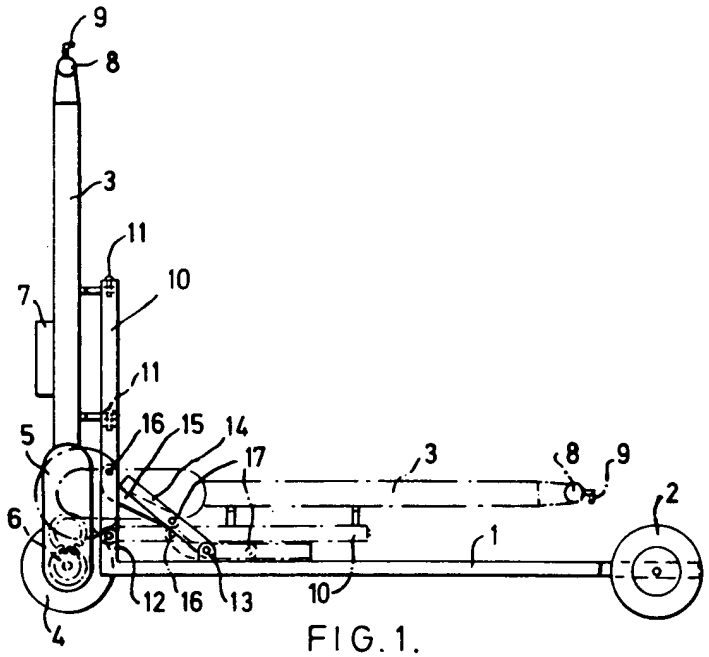

FIG. 1.

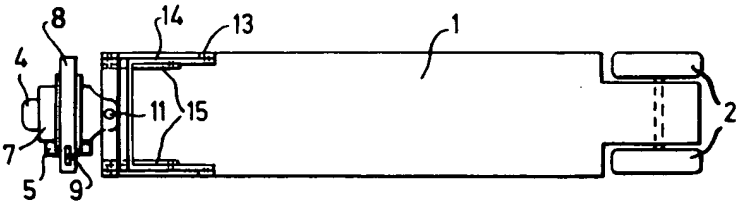

FIG. 2.